UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS EASTERN DIVISION

NOAH GREENBERG

SHEET 1 PAGE 1 -

Civil Action

-VS-

* No. 04-11934-GAO

TOWN OF FALMOUTH and GANNETT FLEMING, INC.

APPEARANCES: Richard M. Russell, Esquire 205 Worcester Court Unit B-2 Falmouth, Massachusetts 02540; Representing the Plaintiff.

Daniel G. Skrip, Esquire OFFICES PIERCE, DAVIS & PERRITANO, LLP Ten Winthrop Square Boston, Massachusetts 02110; Representing the Town of Falmouth.

John C. Barker, Esquire LAW OFFICES OF MICHIENZIE & SAWIN, LLC 745 Boylston Street - 5th Floor Boston, Massachusetts 02116; Representing Gannett Fleming, Inc.

DEPOSITION of JEFFREY ALBERTI, a witness

of lawful age, taken on behalf of the Plaintiff In

Parisi Court Reporting 270 Hixville Road North Dartmouth, Massachusetts 02747 (508) 984-5502

Barbara St. Jean, RPR, CSR No. 127693

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1	the above-entitled cause wherein Noah Greenberg is the			
2	Plaintiff and Town of Falmouth et al are the Defendants,			
3	pending before the United States District Court for			
4	the District of Massachusetts, Eastern Division,			
5	pursuant to Notice and agreement of parties before			
6	Barbara St. Jean, CSR, RPR, a Notary Public in and for			
7	the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at the offices of			
8	Richard M. Russell, P.C., 205 Worcester Court,			
9	Falmouth, Massachusetts, on Monday, the 5th day of			
10	December, 2005, at 10:00 o'clock a.m.			
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A I'm responsible for overseeing projects from conceptual design through construction phase services. Q And did you ever have a post-graduate degree, one or

or more postgraduate degrees that you've obtained?

A I have a Bachelor of Civil Engineering from

Villanova University; and that's it.

8 Q And when did you obtain that degree?

9 A Nineteen ninety-two.

SHEET 3 PAGE 9 -

10 Q How long have you been employed at Gannett Fleming?

11 A Since 1992; so going on 13 years or 14 years.

12 Q And is that the same year you obtained the degree?

Is that what you said? 13

14 A That's correct.

15 Q Okay. Are you familiar with a project in Falmouth with respect to the Town of Falmouth Department of

Public Works maintenance facility? 17

18 A Yes, Iam.

24

1

2

3

19 Q Okay. How long have you been familiar with that?

20 A I was -- I am the Project Manager for the project.

21 Q And how would you describe the project?

22 A It's a renovation and expansion of the existing

Public Works facility. 23

MR. RUSSELL: Okay. Would you mark Parisi Court Reporting (508) 984-5502

MR. BARKER: Will we be getting copies of these exhibits? 2 3 MR. RUSSELL: Sure. Just for the record, Exhibit 1 is 4

entitled Notice of Deposition of Gannett Fleming, 5 6

Q And, Mr. Alberti, are you aware that you're here 7 today to give information known to Gannett Fleming 8 regarding the Falmouth Department of Public Works 9 maintenance facility project? 10

A Yes, I am. 11

Q And when I say Falmouth Department of Public Works 12

maintenance facility project, you understand that to 13

be the addition and renovation project that you 14

15 described earlier?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Mr. Alberti, I'm gonna show to you what's been

marked as Exhibit Number 2. And the title of that 18

document is Defendant Gannett Fleming's Responses to 19

Plaintiff's First Set of Interrogatories. I ask you 20 to peruse that; and let me know if you're familiar 21

with that. And in particular, if you could look to 22

the second to the last page and let me know if 23

that's your signature that appears on that document. Parisi Court Reporting (508) 984-5502

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10 that, please.

(Whereupon the above-described document was then marked as

Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 1)

Q Mr. Alberti, I'm going to show you a document that 4 the Court Reporter has marked as Exhibit 1 and ask 5 you if you are familiar with that document. 6

A Yes, I am. 7

Q And how are you familiar with that?

9 A I have reviewed it. I have a copy; and I've

reviewed it. 10

11 Q Okay. You indicated that you're familiar with an addition and renovation project at the Falmouth 12

Department of Public Works maintenance facility. Do 13

you have a particular role in that project? 14

15 A Yes. I'm currently the Project Manager for the 16

Q And Gannett Fleming has a role in that project? 17

18 A Yes. We do.

19 Q And what would Gannett Fleming's role be?

A We are the designers of the project. 20

MR. RUSSELL: Would you mark that,

21 22 please.

23

(Whereupon the above-described document was then marked as

Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 2) 24

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1

Actually, it would it be the last

page. I'm sorry. 2

3 A Yes. That is my signature.

4 Q And did you review that document before you put your

12

signature to it? 5

6 A Yes, I did.

Q And what was the purpose of your review of that 7

document?

A To confirm the information in the document.

10 Q And did you in fact confirm the information in the

document? 11

12 A Yes, I did.

13 Q You confirmed that it was accurate?

14 A Yes, I did.

15 Q Can you tell me how Gannett Fleming first became

aware of the Falmouth D.P.W. project.

17 A There was a Notice published in the Central Register 18

back in 2001, I believe.

19 Q And what is the Central Register?

20 A Is it a Massachusetts publication that lists

projects that are available for engineering and 21

architectural firms to bid on. I'd like to rephrase 22

that; not to bid on, but actually submit proposals 23

24

SHEET 10 PAGE 37 -37 referring to back in June of 2001? A At the time of this statement, it was a general statement to knock down walls. The Town -- as far as I recall, the Town didn't identify what walls would be knocked down. Q Did they comment any further than that? 6 A Not that I recall at this time. 7 Q About two-thirds of the way down, there's a note, 8 "Would like to use upstairs space in admin gable for 9 future use." Do you see that? 11 A Yes, Ido. 12 Q What do you recall about using an upstairs space that was discussed at this meeting? 13 14 A My understanding was the Town wanted to build a second floor to their addition in the administration 15 17 Q That would be the office space area, administration area. Is that correct? 18 19 A That is correct. 20 Q And did they make any reference to the existing plans when they made that comment? 22 A Not that I recall. 23 Q Other than what's reflected in your notes, do you recall that they made any comments about the

PAGE 39 A Yes, I have, Q Earlier, you said that at some point at the 2 beginning of this D.P.W. project, you were given a 3 copy of a Request for Qualifications. Do you recall 5 that testimony? 6 A Yes, Ido. Q Would this be the document that you were referring 7 to then? 8 9 A Yes. It is. 10 Q There's a very faint part here on the left-hand side of the first page. Do you have any idea what that 11 12 13 A I'm unable to make that out. 14 Q Do you recognize the handwriting at all? 15 A Yes. It appears to be my handwriting. 16 Q Can you make out any of the words? 17 A Yeah. I see the words "Sandy, Town, to, and Dot. 18 Q Is Sandy -- does Sandy mean something to you? 19 A Does not. 20 Q Really? 21 A No. 22 Q It doesn't mean anything to you?

MR. BARKER: Objection.

24 Q Do you think it's a person? Or is it a description

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PAGE 38 _ existing plans? A Not that I recall. 2 MR. RUSSELL: Would you mark that, 3 4 (Whereupon the above-described 5 document was then marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 4) 6 MR. RUSSELL: Mr. Alberti, the Court 7 Reporter has marked as Exhibit 4 a six-page 8 document, and the first page of which reads 9 Department of Public Works, William B. Owen, 10 Director. The Town of Falmouth Department of Public 11 Works Request for Qualifications architectural 12 design services. 13 14 Q And I would ask you if you've seen that document before. 15 A Yes, I have. 16 17 Q There's a note at the top of it, CC, colon, J.J.A. Does that have some meaning to you? 18 19 A Yes. That is my initials indicating that the document was provided to me. 21 Q Do you know who made that note?

23 Q And have you prior to today had an occasion to study

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22 A I do not.

this document?

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PAGE 40 -40 of the characteristics of, you know, the soil 1 conditions? 2 3 A I believe it is a person. 4 Q Underthat, does it say near? Here? Town? Near Town? Or can you not make it out? 6 A Oh, actually, to the Town, it appears to state 7 Q Near Town. So does it help you at all 8 understand what that might have said? 10 A No. It does not. 11 Q is there an original of this document that would be most legible? 12 13 A Yes. There is. 14 Q There any reason why it's so faint? 15 A I recall reviewing it. And it was written in green. And green doesn't copy as well. 16 17 Q Okay. 18 A Green pencil, that is. 19 Q Over the second, third, and fourth pages, there are some notes that are made on this document. Do you 20 21 see those? 22 A Yes. Ido.

23 Q Can you -- well, strike that. Do you have an

understanding of whose notes those are?

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DEPOSITION of JEFFREY ALBERTI Taken 12/05/2005 (GREENBERG versus FALMOUTH)

SHEET 11 PAGE 41 _ 41 A Those appear to be my notes. Q And do you know when you would have made those A I would have made those notes when I received the Request for Qualifications and reviewed it. Q What was the purpose of the notes? 6 MR. BARKER: Just in general? Or 7 8 any specific one? 9 MR. RUSSELL: Just in general. 10 Q Do you have some purpose behind making the notes? A My understanding is that these are items that are 11 important to address in the proposal. 13 Q Did your participation in the June 5th meeting prompt any of these notes? 14 15 A I don't recall. 16 Q Do you know how soon after the June 5th, 2001, meeting you would have received this document? 17 18 A According to the date stamp, June 11th, 2001, received at Gannett Fleming. I don't recall exactly 19 when I received it once it was logged in. 21 Q The first page of this document that you were just

A Yes, Ido. Q And under the preliminary plans for this project 2 were prepared in 1994 and may be used as a guide of 3 the Department's intent. These plans are attached 4 hereto as Exhibit -- excuse me -- Appendix A. 5 6 Do you see that? 7 A Yes, Ido. Q Do you recall that there were plans attached to this document? 10 A Yes, Ido. Q And do you remember how many pages the plans 11 consisted of? 12 13 A I believe there were three plans. 14 Q Three pages of plans? 15 A Yes. I believe there were three 11-by-17 plans attached. 16

received, what plans were -- excuse me. Strike 18 19 Does Gannett Fleming have a record of 20 what was attached to this document? 21

Q Does Gannett Fleming have a record of what was

22 A Yes. We do. In fact, if I can add to my earlier answer; I believe there were four 11-by-17 plans.

24 And we do have a copy.

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1 Q Does that have any meaning to you? 2 A No. It does not.

5/30/01 and 6/6/01. Do you see that?

3 Q Would you suspect that this is the language of the advertisement that appeared in the Central Register that you discussed earlier? 5

referring to on the bottom, it says Central Register

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A The entire R.F.Q.? When you refer to the language, you're referring to the entire R.F.Q.?

Q No. The language in the Central Register. You 8 mentioned there was an advertisement in the 9 Central Register. 10

11 A Correct.

24 A Yes, Ido.

12 Q And my question was this first page, does this appear to be what would have been advertised in the 13 Central Register? 14

15 A I don't recall. I'd have to review the

Central Register again. 16

Q Does Gannett Fleming keep a record of that? 17

18 A We do have a record of it, yes.

19 Q Is there any particular reason for keeping a record 20

21 A No particular reason.

22 Q On the third page of that document, it has a number GF 00250. There's a heading Scope of Services. And 23 24

there are five items identified. Do you see that? Parisi Court Reporting (508) 984-5502

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Q Do you recall whether any of those plans were in 2 color?

3 A Yes.

Q How many of them were in color?

5 A One.

Q And can you characterize that one plan that was in 6 color and distinguish it from the others? Are you 7 able to do that?

A The plan would be described as a building elevation 9 10

Q After that paragraph I just read from, there's 11 another paragraph. And then following that, I'd 12 like to read the next two sentences.

"The designer shall review the 14 facility needs program previously completed and 15 obtain a working knowledge of the Department's 16 needs. The designer shall review the design with 17

the building user for compatibility with the final 18

determined needs." Do you see that? 19

20 A Yes. Ido.

Q Do you have an understanding of what the language

facility's needs program refers to?

23 A My understanding is how much square footage would be required.

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17

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61

SHEET 16 PAGE 61 removing columns --2 A Yes. Q -- from vehicle storage. A Yes. Q That's why I said briefly; because it was very 5 brief. Is there a typical construction material for 7 a garage structure of that nature, I'll say? A There is not. It all depends on the client. 8 Q You said that you've made a more careful study of 9 the plans that were attached as Appendix A to the 10 Town's Request for Qualifications. You recall 11 mentioning that? 12 MR. BARKER: Objection. 13 14 Recently? MR. RUSSELL: Yes. 15 MR. BARKER: Eventually? 16 I see. Gotcha. 17 18 A Yes. Recently to prepare for this, yes. 19 Q Okay. Are you -- were you able to identify any of the construction materials for the garage structure as part of that review? 21 22 A I don't recall seeing any construction materials at 23 this time. (Whereupon a document 24 was then marked as Parisi Court Reporting (508) 984-5502

PAGE 63 interviews conducted as part of this project? 2 A We had a meeting with the Town, which may or may not be considered an interview. It depends on what the format of the interview is. Q That's fair enough. What was the date of that 5 A Our initial meeting was on January 28th, I believe, 7 of 2002. 8 9 Q What do you recall about that meeting? A We met with the Town to discuss the scope of the 12 Q When you say the Town, who did you meet with in particular? 13 14 A Mr. Owen. Q Was anybody else at this meeting representing the 15 Town? 16 17 A Not from the Town.

23 A He's a Vice-President.
24 Q Did he have any involvement in this D.P.W. project?
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18 Q Who represented Gannett Fleming at the meeting?

21 A With the project or in -- at Gannett Fleming?

19 A Myself and Michael Haire.

22 Q At Gannett Fleming.

20 Q What is Michael Haire's role?

PAGE 62 . 62 Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 6) Q The Court Reporter has marked as Exhibit 6 a 2 document -- a one-page document. It appears to be a 3 Gannett Fleming note. Is that what you refer to 4 5 that heading as a note? A It's a Gannett Fleming note. It's a -- it's a note 6 pad. 7 8 Q A note pad? A It's a note pad with Gannett Fleming letterhead on 10 Q Thank you. And I would ask you if you're familiar 11 with that document. 13 A Yes, I am. 14 Q And how are you familiar with it? 15 A I wrote this document. 16 Q The first paragraph mentions something about conducting an interview. Do you see that --17 18 A Yes, Ido. 19 Q -- at the very end? What do you understand that to 20 21 A I would understand that to mean the Town sometimes conducts interviews of the firms prior to selecting 23 24 Q To your knowledge, was there any interview or Parisi Court Reporting (508) 984-5502

A Yes. Michael played a limited role as a principal for the project. 2 3 Q You say at this meeting, you discussed the scope of the project. A That's correct. 5 Q What do you recall about discussing the scope of the 6 project? 7 A Off the top of my head, I don't recall the 8 specifics. There were general conversations about 9 what the project was to include, what the Town was 10 interested in, the schedule. We also discussed the 11 preliminary plans at that time. We indicated that 12 we did not want to use them because we had problems with them. And the Town agreed that we did not need 14 to use them at that meeting. And that's just a 15 portion of what I recall from the meeting. I think 16

22 notes to review what was discussed.
23 Q Did you ask in any way the delay between May and
24 June when this project was advertised in the
25 Parisi Court Reporting (508) 984-5502

just speak from my -- I'd have to go through my

there was more discussed in addition to that.

18 Q More regarding the scope of the project? Or more

20 A I don't have the meeting memorized; so I -- I can't

regarding agenda items that you haven't mentioned?

17

19

21

A My understanding, that's referring to the document

that's titled Request for Qualifications prepared by

the Town of Falmouth and issued to all designers,

potential designers.

SHEET 18 PAGE 69 _

Q That's the document that's already been marked as an

exhibit. Is that correct?

A That's correct. 7

Q After referencing the Request for Proposals, it 8

mentions the pre-proposal briefing. Do you see 9

10

11 A Yes. Ido.

12 Q Can you tell me what that refers to?

13 A That refers to the June 5th, 2001, meeting at the

15 Q And you were the only representative of Gannett

Fleming at that meeting. 16

17 A That's correct.

18 Q Is that correct? Our visits to the site. Can you

tell me how many visits to the site that there 19

were --20

21 A There were --

22 Q -- made by Gannett Fleming? I'm sorry.

A There were -- could you tell me which time frame

you're referring to? 24

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69 to this fee proposal.

Q Okay. The phone call that you mentioned, that would

71

72

be Exhibit 6. Is that correct?

4

3

Q And I neglected to ask you when we went over that, 5

who was that -- who was that intended for, 6

7 Exhibit 6?

A This is written by me for myself. 8

9 Q This is a note to yourself?

10 A Yes. Just a document for the file, basically.

Q Okay. I've noticed you take very -- you keep very 11

good records at Gannett Fleming. 12

Do you recall -- did he phone you? 13

Did you phone him? 14

A I don't recall. 15

Q The third, fourth, fifth, and sixth pages of this

Exhibit, the first page is entitled Scope of 17

Services. Do you see that? 18

19 A Yes, Ido.

20 Q It has a larger title than that; but the center says

Scope of Services. 21

22 A Yes.

23 Q Do you know who prepared this document?

24 A I don't recall who actually prepared it. I believe Parisi Court Reporting (508) 984-5502

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Q This would be prior to submitting a fee proposal,

So prior to January 30th, 2002.

3 A I believe there was one visit. And that was the

pre-proposal meeting.

Q Did you do any inspection of the site while you were 5

there?

A We walked around the site. 7

Q When you say we, was there a guided tour? 8

9 A I believe there was a guided tour by the Town of

Falmouth employees that included all designers, all 10 potential proposers. 11

12 Q Lunderstand.

13 A Okay.

14 Q The sentence goes on to reference and other

conversations with you. Can you tell me what 15 16

conversations this letter is referring to.

17 A My recollection is that refers to the January 28th meeting with Mr. Owen and Mr. Haire and myself. 18

19 Q That would be the only conversation? That uses the

word plural, conversations. 21 A There also was the phone call that was marked

earlier. However, there were no specifics discussed

on the project; so -- those are the only two 23 conversations that I'm aware of at this time prior

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it was a combination of myself and Michael Haire.

Q Did either one of you have a greater role in

drafting this than the other?

4 A I don't recall at this time. Q Do you know when this was prepared? 5

A The actual date?

7 Q Yes.

A I do not know. 8

9 Q Do you have an idea of when it was prepared?

A Only that it was prepared prior to being mailed on 10 11

January 30th of 2002.

12 Q Would it have been prepared anytime prior to

January 11th? And the reason I ask is because that

was the date of the letter from the Town to 14

Mr. Haire requesting a proposal. 15

16 A My recollection is it was prepared sometime after

the January 28th meeting after we had a meeting with 17 18

Mr. Owen.

19 Q So it would have been prepared in a couple of days?

20 A Yes.

21 Q Okay. I would like to go over some of this scope of

services with you. Under task one, review existing

information, do you see that?

24 A Yes, Ido.

73 Q First sentence says, "Review existing preliminary plans prepared for the Falmouth D.P.W. in 1994 to understand the D.P.W.'s intent regarding the objectives of the project." Do you see that? A Yes, Ido. 5

Q Those preliminary plans would refer to the plans that were attached as Appendix A to the Request for 7 Qualifications. Is that correct? 8

9 A That's my understanding at this time. Yes.

10 Q Next sentence, says, "Meet with the D.P.W. staff to determine current needs of the facility." We talked 11

about that a little bit before with your user 12

interview form. 13

SHEET 19 PAGE 73 .

14 A Yes.

15 Q Is that correct?

16 A That's correct.

17 Q The next sentence says, "Evaluate the preliminary

design to determine if the existing preliminary 18 plans meet the current needs of the D.P.W. and 19

prepare recommended modification to the preliminary 20

plans," Do you see that?

22 A Yes, Ido.

23 Q The words "preliminary plans" are used twice in that

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A Yes. Q "Review the recommended modification to the 2 preliminary plans and the initial construction cost 3 estimate with the D.P.W. for compatibility with the 4 D.P.W.'s needs and objectives." 5

75

76

You'll agree with me that in that 6 sentence "recommended modification" refers to 7 8 modification to the preliminary plans. Is that 9 correct?

A That is correct. 10

Q Can you tell me what the initial construction cost 11

estimate would be based upon as that's referenced in 12

this task one Scope of Services? 13

14 A It appears to represent the cost estimate presented

at the briefing session by the Town. 15

Q The next sentence reads, "Obtain D.P.W. concurrence with the recommended changes to the preliminary

17 plan." And as used in that sentence, preliminary 18

plan has the same meaning as preliminary plans in 19

the first sentence? 20

21 A That's my understanding at this time, yes.

22 Q And the final sentence says, "Modify the preliminary

plan to incorporate the modification accepted by the D.P.W." Again, the preliminary plan is the same

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1 A Just once according to my review of it.

Q Evaluate the preliminary design to determine if the existing preliminary plans.

4 A Oh, I'm sorry. Yes. It does say it twice.

Q Okay. As used in this third sentence, those

preliminary plans have the same meaning as in the first sentence?

A That's my understanding at this time, yes. 8

9 Q "Prepare and initial construction cost estimate of 10

the proposed work, including recommended

modifications." Do you see that? 11

12 A Yes, Ido.

13 Q The words "recommended modification" are used both 14

in the sentence I just quoted and the previous

sentence. Do you see that? 15

16 A Yes.

Q Do they have -- do those words have the same meaning 17

in both sentences? 18

19 A The first sentence indicates recommended

modifications to the preliminary plans. The second 20

sentence just states recommended modifications and 21

could mean more than just the preliminary plans. 22

23 Q Is that your understanding of what it does in fact

mean?

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meaning as in the first sentence?

A That's my understanding at this time, yes.

3 Q Is there some meaning behind your using my

understanding at this time? Because I don't

understand what it means, actually. Does it mean 5

you had a different understanding previously, and

you have a new understanding today? 7

8

Q I'm not trying to fight with you. I'm just trying 9

to understand. 10

A It just means that that's my understanding of these

statements as we sit here today. It does not 12

indicate that I had a different understanding of 13

14

15 Q Task three, there's a bullet point there. And the

first bullet point says, "Design a 29,000-plus-or-16

minus-square-foot pre-engineered metal building 17 structure with a concrete knee wall up to four feet 18

zero inches high around perimeter of building. That 19

building will be used for indoor storage of vehicles 20 and for washing of vehicles."

21

Do you know where the 29,000 plus or

minus square foot figure came from?

24 A I don't recall exactly how we came up with that; Parisi Court Reporting (508) 984-5502

22